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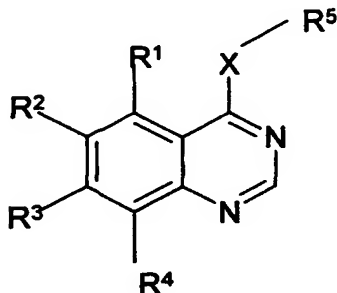
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(54) Title: THERAPEUTIC QUINAZOLINE DERIVATIVES



(I)

(57) Abstract: A compound of formula (I) or a salt, ester, amide or prodrug thereof; where X is O, or S, S(O), S(O)₂ or NR⁶ where R⁶ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl; R⁵ is an optionally substituted 6-membered aromatic ring containing at least one nitrogen atom, and R¹, R², R³, R⁴ are independently selected from halogeno, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₃alkylsulphonyl, -N(OH)R⁷-(wherein R⁷ is hydrogen, or C₁₋₃alkyl), or R⁹X¹-(wherein X¹ represents a direct bond, -O-, -CH₂-, -OC(O)-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR¹⁰C(O)-, -C(O)NR¹¹-, -SO₂NR¹²-, -NR¹³SO₂- or NR¹⁴-(wherein R¹⁰, R¹¹, R¹², R¹³ and R¹⁴ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl), and R⁹ is hydrogen, optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, optionally substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted alkoxy; provided that at least one of R² or R³ is other than hydrogen. These compounds inhibit aurora 2 kinase and are

useful in the preparation of medicaments for the treatment of proliferative disease such as cancer.

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